

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

UNCLAS STATE 294773

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL EXCHANGE

REF: BUCHAREST 6776 AND PREVIOUS

1. DEPARTMENT INFORMED BY DR. J.T. SCOTT OF IOWA STATE OF NOVEMBER 24 SIGNATURE OF TWO YEAR EXCHANGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN IOWA STATE AND ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY SCIENCES. AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR EXCHANGE OF ONE AMERICAN AND ONE ROMANIAN RESEARCHER FOR THREE MONTHS EACH FOR FIRST YEAR OF TWO YEAR AGREEMENT, WITH SECOND YEAR TOTAL NOT SPECIFIED. AGREEMENT MAY BE RENEWED AFTER TWO YEARS IF BOTH SIDES AGREE.

2. CU HAS AGREED THAT IT WILL PAY US TRAVEL TO BUCHAREST, ROMANIAN TRAVEL WASHINGTON TO AMES, AND STIPENDS FOR ROMANIANS. ROMANIANS HAVE AGREED TO PAY ROMANIAN TRAVEL BUCHAREST TO WASHINGTON, PLUS EXPENSES FOR AMERICANS. IOWA STATE HAS AGREED TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SALARIES OF AMERICANS IN ROMANIA. FYI IOWA EXPECTS TO APPROACH NSF AND POSSIBLY OTHERS FOR ASSISTANCE WITH LAST EXPENSE. WE HAVE INFORMED IOWA STATE THAT WE WILL NOT FUND THIS ITEM.

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3. STICKING POINT TO AGREEMENT WAS SOURCE OF MONEY FOR AMERICAN SALARIES. THIS WAS NOT RESOLVED UNTIL LATE NIGHT SESSION NOVEMBER 23 WHEN IOWA STATE AGREED TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY. SIMILAR PROBLEM ANTICIPATED AT UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA. DEPARTMENT POSITION IS THAT IF EXCHANGE IS WORTH CONDUCTING AT ALL, UNIVERSITIES SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY CONVINCED OF WORTH TO PROVIDE AT LEAST SALARIES. IF US UNIVERSITIES SEE EXCHANGE AS FREE RIDE WE BELIEVE IT COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FOR DEPARTMENT TO FUND.

4. EMBASSY COMMENTS REQUESTED. KISSINGER

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